

From: [Geist, Laura \(DHHS\)](#)
To: [Thomas A. Lang, Esquire - Comcast](#)
Cc: [Clifford McKeown \(ra-finance@comcast.net\)](#)
Subject: RE: Real Alternatives Michigan Preg and Parenting Support Svcs Program Expenses for May 2017
Date: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 11:48:00 AM

Tom,

I am in meetings all day today. Are you available tomorrow between 10:30 am - 12:00 pm? I am also available any time on Friday.

Thank you,
Laura

Laura Geist
(517) 241-3932
GeistL1@michigan.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Thomas A. Lang, Esquire - Comcast [<mailto:ra-operations@comcast.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 11:48 AM
To: Geist, Laura (DHHS) <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
Cc: Clifford McKeown (ra-finance@comcast.net) <ra-finance@comcast.net>
Subject: Re: Real Alternatives Michigan Preg and Parenting Support Svcs Program Expenses for May 2017

Would now be a good time?

On 10/9/17, 8:30 AM, "Geist, Laura (DHHS)" <GeistL1@michigan.gov> wrote:

>Tom,
>
>Would you and Cliff have time tomorrow for a call? I am free any time
>except 9:30 - 10:30 am.
>
>Thanks,
>Laura
>
>
>Laura Geist
>(517) 241-3932
>GeistL1@michigan.gov
>

>-----Original Message-----

>From: Thomas A. Lang, Esquire - Comcast
>[<mailto:ra-operations@comcast.net>]
>Sent: Friday, October 6, 2017 5:08 PM
>To: Geist, Laura (DHHS) <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
>Cc: Clifford McKeown (ra-finance@comcast.net) <ra-finance@comcast.net>
>Subject: Re: Real Alternatives Michigan Preg and Parenting Support Svcs
>Program Expenses for May 2017
>
>Laura -
>
>The computer referenced is on the services side since it is used for

>on-line billing and the services database.
>
>Cliff tells me that we have no prior experience with your suggestion to
>"use the service budget only, and exercise the indirect rate to cover
>your 10% admin."
>
>Tom
>
>
>On 10/6/17, 8:59 AM, "Geist, Laura (DHHS)" <GeistL1@michigan.gov> wrote:
>
>>Tom,
>>
>>TANF does have a 15% admin cost maximum applied to the State.
>>However, your budget only includes 10% admin as it was presented.
>>
>>Your prior email indicated that the admin costs appear to be over 27%.
>>When I look through the detail line items of your budget, the only
>>item on the Services budget that I would have any question on is the
>>Computer Expense. Could we better define that to show it is service
>>related, rather than admin?
>>
>>The other alternative would be to use the service budget only, and
>>exercise the indirect rate to cover your 10% admin.
>>
>>Any thoughts?
>>Laura
>>
>>
>>
>>Laura Geist
>>(517) 241-3932
>>GeistL1@michigan.gov
>>
>>-----Original Message-----
>>From: Thomas A. Lang, Esquire - Comcast
>>[mailto:ra-operations@comcast.net]
>>Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 6:00 PM
>>To: Geist, Laura (DHHS) <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
>>Subject: Re: Real Alternatives Michigan Preg and Parenting Support
>>Svcs Program Expenses for May 2017
>>
>>You're correct. That's no longer applicable since state money is now
>>not involved.
>>
>>However, the 15% Admin Cost Ratio maximum still applies since it is
>>funded with TANF money, correct?
>>
>>
>>On 10/5/17, 2:51 PM, "Geist, Laura (DHHS)" <GeistL1@michigan.gov> wrote:
>>
>>>Tom,
>>>
>>>MDHHS does not have a 10% administrative cost maximum in our agreement.
>>>We have a 10% indirect expense maximum. If your agency can directly
>>>account for the expenditures, then you can include those
>>>administrative costs as direct expenditures.

>>>
>>>Maybe we need to have a phone conversation about this. Is there a
>>>good time we could speak? I have a meeting today from 3 - 4, but I
>>>am available after and most of tomorrow.
>>>
>>>Laura
>>>
>>>
>>>Laura Geist
>>>(517) 241-3932
>>>GeistL1@michigan.gov
>>>
>>>
>>>-----Original Message-----
>>>From: Thomas A. Lang, Esquire - Comcast
>>>[mailto:ra-operations@comcast.net]
>>>Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 1:07 PM
>>>To: Geist, Laura (DHHS) <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
>>>Cc: Clifford W. McKeown <ra-finance@comcast.net>
>>>Subject: Re: Real Alternatives Michigan Preg and Parenting Support
>>>Svcs Program Expenses for May 2017
>>>
>>>Yes, because under the contract we have a 10% Administrative Cost
>>>Ratio maximum. We need to be able to show that in the budget.
>>>Always works this way in every state.
>>>
>>>On 10/5/17, 12:58 PM, "Geist, Laura (DHHS)" <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
>>>wrote:
>>>
>>>>Tom,
>>>>
>>>>MDHHS makes no distinction between direct expenses. Whether those
>>>>expenses are administrative or service delivery, all direct expenses
>>>>should be included within the budget details.
>>>>
>>>>The form that MDHHS uses allows your agency to reflect all direct
>>>>expenses that are applicable to this grant program.
>>>>
>>>>I understand what you are saying about how you have done things in
>>>>the past. However, this is not something that we would normally
>>>>include in a grant. Can you help me understand why your agency
>>>>feels it is important to note which expenses are administrative in nature?
>>>>
>>>>Thank you,
>>>>Laura
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>Laura Geist
>>>>(517) 241-3932
>>>>GeistL1@michigan.gov
>>>>
>>>>-----Original Message-----
>>>>From: Thomas A. Lang, Esquire - Comcast
>>>>[mailto:ra-operations@comcast.net]
>>>>Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 12:37 PM
>>>>To: Geist, Laura (DHHS) <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
>>>>Cc: Clifford W. McKeown <ra-finance@comcast.net>

>>>>Subject: Re: Real Alternatives Michigan Preg and Parenting Support
>>>>Svcs Program Expenses for May 2017
>>>>Importance: High
>>>>
>>>>Laura -
>>>>
>>>>Kevin, Cliff and I met to discuss this problem. We had the
>>>>identical issue at the outset of the last contract. We worked this
>>>>out then and it was agreed that we could use the format that we
>>>>recently also submitted to you, for the following very important reason.
>>>>
>>>>If we use the form that you propose, there is no breakdown between
>>>>Admin and Services. If you just go through and try to figure which
>>>>could be Admin and which could be Services, we would be instantly
>>>>breaching the contract as the Admin Cost Ratio would look like it's
>>>>27.61%, even though that doesn't reflect reality!
>>>>
>>>>If the form you propose is the only one that can be used, we would
>>>>need to have the ability to have one set titled, "DIRECT EXPENSES -
>>>>ADMIN"
>>>>and one set titled, "DIRECT EXPENSES - SERVICES". Is that possible?
>>>>
>>>>Thank you!
>>>>Tom
>>>>
>>>>On 10/4/17, 5:20 PM, "Geist, Laura (DHHS)" <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
>>>>wrote:
>>>>
>>>>>Hi Tom and Cliff,
>>>>>
>>>>>There are items in your proposed budget that do not belong in the
>>>>>Contractual category. Contractual is intended for agencies and
>>>>>individuals that work on the programmatic scope of the project.
>>>>>The legal consultant, database consultant, accounting, and
>>>>>equipment costs all belong in the Other Expenses category.
>>>>>
>>>>>I have updated the budget in EGrAMS. Please review and let me know
>>>>>if you have any issues.
>>>>>
>>>>>Thank you,
>>>>>Laura
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>>Laura Geist
>>>>>(517) 241-3932
>>>>>GeistL1@michigan.gov
>>>>>
>>>>>-----Original Message-----
>>>>>From: Thomas A. Lang, Esquire - Comcast
>>>>><<mailto:ra-operations@comcast.net>>
>>>>>Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 3:18 PM
>>>>>To: Geist, Laura (DHHS) <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
>>>>>Cc: Cliff <ra-finance@comcast.net>
>>>>>Subject: Re: Real Alternatives Michigan Preg and Parenting Support
>>>>>Svcs Program Expenses for May 2017
>>>>>
>>>>>Laura -

>>>>>
>>>>>Cliff completed the budget and I am attaching it here for your review.
>>>>>I am forwarding it since Cliff's email's are apparently being
>>>>>blocked or redirected to a spam folder for some reason.
>>>>>
>>>>>If you have any questions on the budget, please contact Cliff
>>>>>directly
>>>>>at:
>>>>>(717) 541-7833.
>>>>>
>>>>>Thank you!
>>>>>Tom
>>>>>
>>>>>On 10/2/17, 8:49 AM, "Geist, Laura (DHHS)" <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
>>>>>wrote:
>>>>>
>>>>>>Hi Cliff,
>>>>>>
>>>>>>The attached Excel document should assist you in completing the
>>>>>>detailed budget.
>>>>>>
>>>>>>Thank you,
>>>>>>Laura
>>>>>>
>>>>>>
>>>>>>Laura Geist
>>>>>>(517) 241-3932
>>>>>>GeistL1@michigan.gov
>>>>>>
>>>>>>-----Original Message-----
>>>>>>From: Thomas Lang [<mailto:ra-operations@comcast.net>]
>>>>>>Sent: Friday, September 29, 2017 5:25 PM
>>>>>>To: Cliff <ra-finance@comcast.net>
>>>>>>Cc: Geist, Laura (DHHS) <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
>>>>>>Subject: Re: Real Alternatives Michigan Preg and Parenting Support
>>>>>>Svcs Program Expenses for May 2017
>>>>>>
>>>>>>Here's what it said, ³Ms. Geist,
>>>>>>Would you be able to send us a template that we can fill in
>>>>>>ourselves of the form you sent us earlier today, the form ³Budget
>>>>>>Detail for Pregnancy and Parenting Support Services Program 2018?
>>>>>>Thanks.
>>>>>>Cliff?
>>>>>>
>>>>>>Tom
>>>>>>
>>>>>>
>>>>>>
>>>>>>Sent from my iPhone
>>>>>>
>>>>>>> On Sep 29, 2017, at 2:48 PM, Cliff <ra-finance@comcast.net> wrote:
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> Ms. Geist,
>>>>>>> Would you be able to send us a template that we can fill in
>>>>>>>ourselves of the form you sent us earlier today, the form ³Budget
>>>>>>>Detail for Pregnancy and Parenting Support Services Program 2018?
>>>>>>> Thanks.

>>>>>>> Cliff

>>>>>>

>>>>>

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